

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN & BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1949.

Mr. Mayor, Alderman & Councillors,  
I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1949. This is an interim report as instructed by Circular 170/47, and abbreviated in accordance with the directions of Circular 2067/40.

V I T A L       S T A T I S T I C S

<u>POPULATION:-</u>		Registrar General's Estimate: 5,199		
<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	(	M.	F.	Total
	(Legitimate	50	36	86
	(Illegitimate	1	1	2
		51	37	88
} <u>Live Birth Rate:-</u> per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 16.92				
<u>STILL BIRTHS:</u>	(Legitimate	1	0	1
	(Illegitimate	0	0	0
		1	0	1
<u>DEATHS:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	} <u>Death Rate, per 1,000</u> of the estimated resident population:- 14.42
	36	39	75	

Rates for England & Wales, per 1,000 population:-  
Birth Rate: 16.7                      Death Rate: 11.7

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES..... 0  
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE..... 1  
Rate per 1,000 Live Births: 11.3  
Rate for England & Wales per 1,000 Live Births: 32.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS):-

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox.....	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	3	1	0
Diphtheria.....	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid).....	0	0	0
Measles.....	4	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	10	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	0	0	0
Opthalmia Neonatorum.....	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.....	0	0	0
Dysentery.....	0	0	0
Malaria.....	0	0	0
Pneumonia.....	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	1	0
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	0	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally: e.g. Erysipelas.....	0	0	0

[illegible]

1. The first part of the document is a list of references. The references are as follows:
 

- 1. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 2. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 3. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 4. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 5. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 6. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 7. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 8. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 9. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).
- 10. J. H. D. Elms, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A*, **193**, 1 (1947).

1. *Chrysomelids* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) are the most diverse group of beetles found on plants. They are often found on leaves and stems, and some species are known to feed on specific plants. The most common species found on plants are the *Chrysomelids* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae).

TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>New Cases:-</u>				<u>Deaths:-</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Year 1949 - all ages	4	1	0	1	3	1	0	0

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1948.....	12	8	0	2	12	10
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1949.....	12	8	0	3	12	11

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the dwelling-houses in the Borough are supplied from the Council's public mains, the figures being as follows:-

Laid on direct to houses.....	1,509
Water fetched from distant stand-pipe.....	2
	<u>1,511</u>
Houses (including isolated farms) having only a private well supply.....	12
Total Dwellings in the Borough.....	<u><u>1,523</u></u>

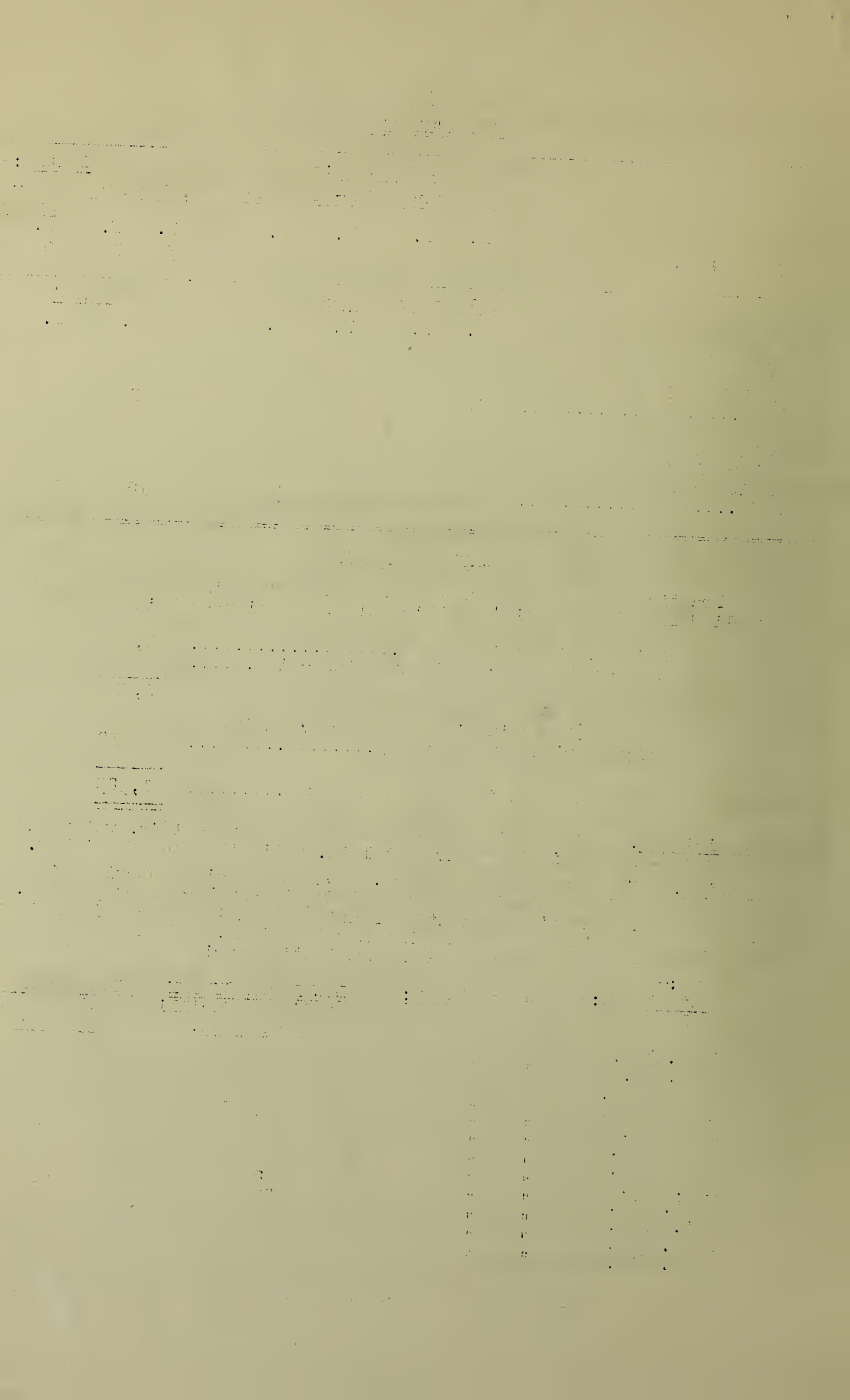
Sufficiency. Owing to the abnormally dry summer of 1949, water had to be turned off at night from August 18th. until the end of October.

Quality. The main supply is hard. Galvanised-iron service pipes are used and no difficulty is experienced due to plumbo-solvent action.

Permanent Chlorination Plant (Chloramine process) has been installed on both the High and Low Level systems, and the results of samples taken for Bacteriological Examination during the year were as follows:-

<u>Date taken:-</u> 1949	<u>Where taken:-</u>	<u>LOW LEVEL SYSTEM</u> Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.	<u>HIGH LEVEL SYSTEM</u> Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.
Jany.13th.	from tap	0	0
Feby.9th.	" "	0	0
March 15th.	" "	0	0
April 26th.	" "	1	0
May 24th.	" "	3	3
June 21st.	" "	25	1
July 19th.	" "	8	0
Aug.16th.	" "	2	25
Sept.13th.	" "	25	2
Oct. 11th.	" "	3	0
Novr. 8th.	" "	0	0
Decr. 6th.	" "	0	0

(= 100% Non-faecal)





WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Chemical Analysis. The results of the examination of a sample taken from the main (Low Level) supply on 16th. August, 1949, were as follows:-

(All results in parts per 100,000)

Physical Characters	- Clear and bright.	
Reaction	- Slightly Alkaline	pH = 7.4
Total Solids	-	48.0
Alkalinity (as Ca Co <sub>3</sub> )		36.0
Total Hardness:	30.0	(Permanent 3.0 Temporary 27.0)
Chlorine (in terms of sodium chloride)		3.2
Sod. Bicarbonate (as Ca Co <sub>3</sub> )		6.0
Nitrogen as Saline and free ammonia:		0.0006
" " Albuminoid:		0.0004
" " Nitrates		0.24
" " Nitrites		Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate		
(4 hrs. at 80°C)		0.02
Free Carbon Dioxide		3.1
Sediment		None.

Extensions and Improvements during the year:- (1) Booster Plant on the trunk main at West Parnard completed and in operation. (2) New High Level Reservoir and mains for supplying higher parts of the Borough in hand. (3) Erection of Pumping Station over No.2 Bore-hole at West Compton and provision of duplicate pumping plant completed. (4) Booster Plant for increasing pressure on the low level system in hand.

Future proposals:-

A scheme for supplying the Brindham and Wick areas under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, at a cost of £10,250, has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health and the County Council.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Extensions and improvements during the year:- (1) Relaying of the Sewer in Benedict Street to prevent flooding. (2) Provision of a new Sewer from the Windmill Hill housing estate. (3) Remedial works at Northload Bridge pumping station. (all completed during the year)

Future proposals:- (1) Scheme for new Sewage Disposal Works at Beckery, to deal with the town sewage and trade effluents from the two factories nearby, has been prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers, both factories having agreed to the scheme in principle.

(2) Scheme for the extension of the sewer on the Wells Road to take the drainage from the Cemetery Lodge and several adjoining properties, not at present connected to the main drainage system, is to be carried out.

FOOD POISONING.

No outbreak of food poisoning occurred in the Borough during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 -(Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.) No action was taken under this Section during 1949.



HOUSING.(a) Provision of new houses in the Borough during 1949:-

	Erected & completed		In course of erection		Conversions or adaptations.
	Per- manent	Tempor- ary	Per- manent	Tempor- ary	
By Local Authority	21	0	22	0	0
By Private Enterprise	1	0	4	0	3
TOTALS	22	0	26	0	3

(b) Estimated housing requirements at end of 1949:-

- (1) To replace those unfit..... 60  
 (2) To abate overcrowding..... 3  
 (3) Where conditions are unsatisfactory  
     e.g. two or more families living in  
     one house, but not included in (1)  
     or (2)..... 84
- } cases in  
Borough  
only.

Total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year (including out-district applicants)..... 217

Houses occupied that should be condemned as totally unfit as a matter of urgency (included in (1) above)..... 15

(c) General observations.

Since the War, up to the end of 1949, a total of 68 new dwellings have been completed by the Local Authority, 13 by Private Enterprise, and 10 units of accommodation have been provided by conversion or adaptation, making provision for 96 families in all.

Whilst this building has gone a long way towards abating serious statutory overcrowding, there are still many instances of bad overcrowding on bedroom standard and of more than one family living in small houses with consequent friction and dissatisfaction.

At the outbreak of the War there were known to be at least 60 houses which were fit only for demolition and nearly all of them are still occupied, and while these houses cannot be demolished they will continue to be occupied as they are readily re-let even when families living in them have been re-housed. There are still 217 applicants on the waiting list and at the present rate of new building it is impossible to forecast a date by which time housing conditions in the Borough will have become reasonably satisfactory.

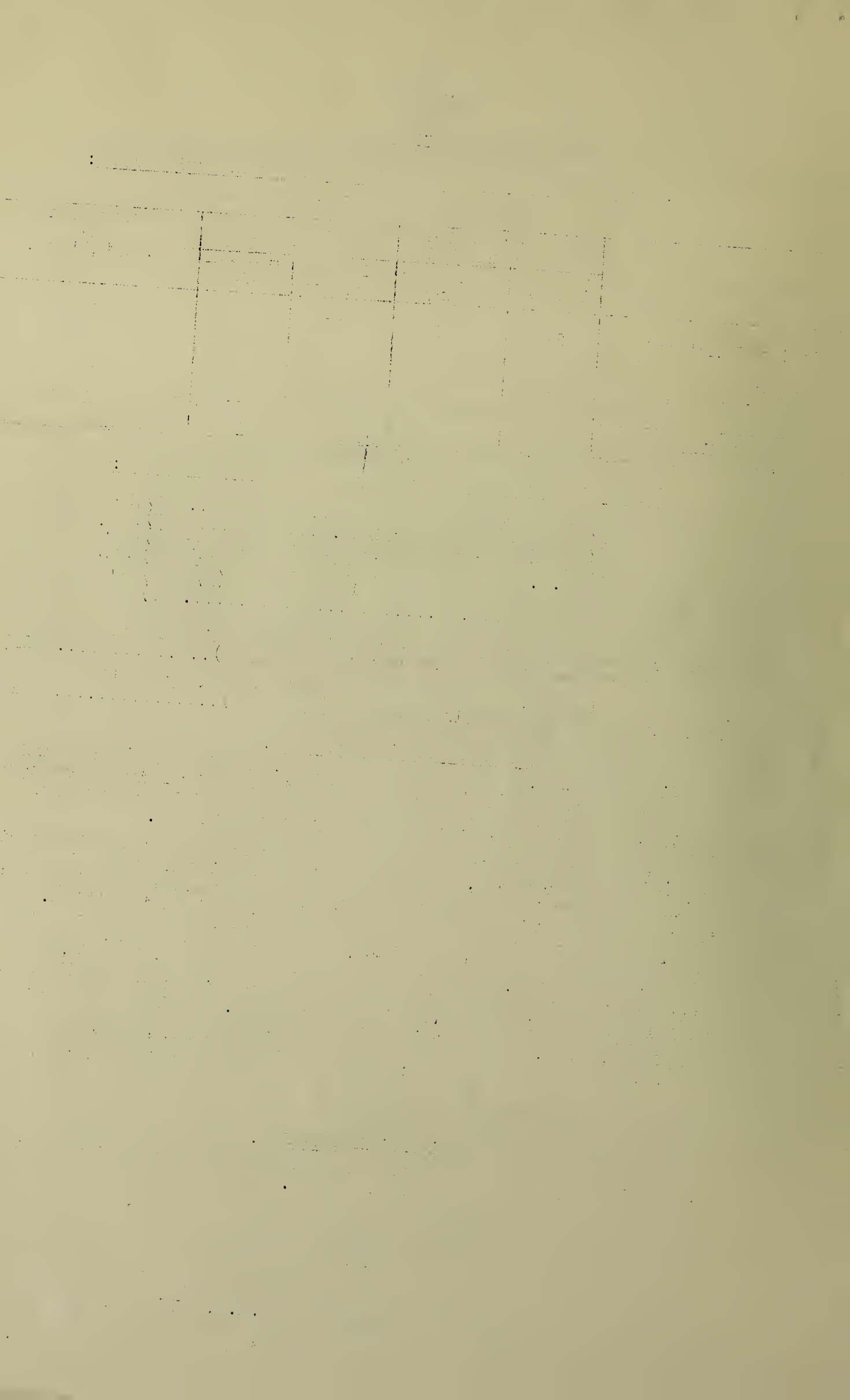
SANITARY INSPECTION.

A summary of visits made and matters dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector during the year is appended.

I am,  
Your obedient servant,

T.H.A. PINNIGER

Medical Officer of Health.





## BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

Year 1949.SANITARY INSPECTION:-Visits & Inspections:-

Housing & Sanitary defects.....	58
Drain-work and alterations to premises.....	104
Public Health Acts and Miscellaneous.....	136
Factories Act.....	21
Food & Drugs Act (including Ice Cream premises).....	112
Milk & Dairies Orders.....	27
Rodent Control.....	29
River Pollution.....	24
Tents, Vans & Sheds.....	11
Infectious Diseases.....	8
Re applications for housing accommodation & overcrowding.....	36
Requisitioned premises.....	4
Refuse removal and Salvage.....	16
Vermin or insect infestations.....	3
Housing Estate visits.....	63
	<u>652</u>

MATTERS DEALT WITH:-

Number of complaints received.....	74
Choked Drains cleared.....	19
Defective drains repaired.....	8
Houses provided with entirely new drainage system.....	1
Inspection chambers constructed on existing drains.....	9
Defective Water-closets repaired or renewed.....	9
Existing water-closets fitted with flush-cisterns.....	5
Earth-closets replaced with water-closets.....	1
Defective sewage-disposal plants put in order.....	2
Baths installed.....	12
Sinks installed.....	3
Premises disinfected after Infectious Disease.....	7
Refuse removal, communications received & attended to.....	10
Water-courses cleansed.....	2
Drainage provided to Piggeries.....	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated.....	13
Housing defects remedied.....	16
Houses reconditioned & Closing Order determined.....	1
Unfit houses closed on undertaking not to re-let.....	2
Overcrowded families re-housed.....	7
River pollution - causes abated.....	1
Rats & Mice infestations dealt with: Private premises.....	10
Refuse Tip treatments...	1
Sewage Works treatments.	1
Sewer treatments.....	2
Condemnations of unsound foodstuffs.....	9
Interviews with applicants for housing accommodation.....	103
Factories Act - Sanitary conveniences reconstructed.....	3
Additional provided.....	1
other defects remedied.....	2
Samples of Water taken for Chemical Analysis.....	3
Samples of Water taken for Bacteriological Examination.....	24
Samples of Ice Cream taken for Bacteriological examination...	74
Other foodstuffs sent for Analysis.....	1
Samples of River Water taken for Analysis.....	3
Number of written informal requests issued.....	51
Number of Statutory Notices served.....	4

H. W. HEMBURY  
Sanitary Inspector.

